

# Numbers & locations



**SASGAC**  
Past | Present | Future

## of Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants

The forced removal of children from their families on the basis of their race was a universal experience for Australia's First Nations peoples.

Although it is not known how many children were removed in total, the estimate provided by the extensive work of the Bringing them Home inquiry was that:

**"... Between one in three and one in 10 Indigenous children were forcibly removed from their families and communities in the period from approximately 1910 until 1970. In certain regions and in certain periods the figure was undoubtedly much greater than one in 10. In that time not one Indigenous family has escaped the effects of forcible removal ... Most families have been affected, in one or more generations, by the forcible removal of one or more children."**

<sup>1</sup> Bringing them Home report

The exact numbers of children removed will never be known, largely because full records were not kept, some records have been destroyed, and the complex and inconsistent policies and practices across jurisdictions and institutions limit access to the records that do exist.

<sup>1</sup> Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (1997) Bringing them Home: Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families  
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